



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

SECRETARY

November 18, 2013

Mr. Shawn M. Garvin
Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street, (Mail Code: 3RA00)
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Mr. Garvin:

I am writing to withdraw portions of the Allegheny County Health Department's (ACHD) State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on June 17, 2011, concerning the 1997 annual fine particulate matter (PM_{2.5}) National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for the Liberty-Clairton Nonattainment Area.

The June 17, 2011, SIP revision consists of an attainment demonstration for the PM_{2.5} NAAQS, reasonably available control measures (RACM); reasonable further progress (RFP); regulation changes; emissions inventory; the stationary point, area, nonroad and mobile emissions inventories; and contingency measures for the area. This letter withdraws all portions of the Liberty-Clairton PM_{2.5} NAAQS SIP revision except those found in the following parts of the submittal:

- Section 2: (Regulation Changes)
- Section 6: (Emissions Inventory)
- Appendix F: (Stationary Point, Area, Nonroad, and Mobile Emissions Inventories)

On October 25, 2013, the EPA published two separate determinations in the *Federal Register* for the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS for the Liberty-Clairton area, effective November 25, 2013 (78 FR 63881). First, EPA determined that the area has attained the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS by the applicable attainment date based on the quality assured and certified ambient air quality data for the 2009-2011 monitoring period. Second, EPA determined that the area has continued to attain the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS based on the quality assured and certified ambient air quality data for the 2010-2012 monitoring period.

The determination of continued attainment suspends the requirements for the Liberty-Clairton area to submit an attainment demonstration, RACM, RFP, and contingency measures related to attainment of the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS, so long as the area continues to attain the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} standard. However, the Liberty-Clairton area is not relieved of certain Clean Air Act obligations including nonattainment new source review until EPA redesignates the area to attainment of the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS and approves a maintenance plan for the area.

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Therefore, in light of EPA's recent Liberty-Clairton area determinations for the 1997 annual PM_{2.5} NAAQS, approval of certain elements of the SIP revision pending before the EPA, other than the previously mentioned exceptions (Sections 2 and 6 and the Appendix F of the SIP revision) is no longer necessary. We look forward to your expedited processing of the revised SIP revision.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Joyce E. Epps, Director, Bureau of Air Quality, by e-mail at jeepps@pa.gov or by telephone at 717-787-9702.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "E. Christopher Abruzzo".

E. Christopher Abruzzo
Acting Secretary

Enclosure